

Mr. Lothbridge observed that, with regard to the occupation of Tibet by the Gakk'hars, it may be interesting to note the similarity between certain forms of the names of the chief towns of the Gakk'hars (which are properly Dangáli and Pharwála), and of those of Tibet, which are Lassa and Putala. De Laët, writing in 1631, speaks of "Kakares, whose chief towns are *Dankaler* and *Purhola*, a very broad and mountainous region, divided from Tartary by the ridges of the Caucasus." Mandelsloe calls the district "Kakires, with the chief towns *Daukalen* and *Binsola*." Rennell tells us, that the Tibetan capitals are sometimes called *Baronthala* and *Putala*, and sometimes *Tonker* and *Putala*.

III.—ON SOME NEW SPECIES OF MALAYAN BATS FROM THE COLLECTION OF DR. STOLICZKA,—by G. E. DOBSON, B. A., M. B., *Assistant Surgeon H. M.'s British Forces*.

Mr. Dobson said—I have the pleasure of bringing to the notice of the members of the Society four new species of Malayan bats from the collection of Dr. Stoliczka who, knowing what an interest I take in this order of Mammals, kindly placed at my disposal, for examination and description, the specimens collected by him at Penang, Moulmein, the Nicobar and Andaman Islands. Of these new species two belong to the frugivorous and two to the insectivorous divisions of bats, and represent four genera namely *Cynopterus*, *Macroglossus*, *Phyllorhina*, and *Asellia*. For these species I propose the following names:—

1. *Cynopterus brachysoma*.
2. *Macroglossus spelæus*.
3. *Phyllorhina Nicobarensis*.
4. *Asellia Stoliczkana*.

As full descriptions of these bats will be published with illustrations, in the natural history part of the Journal, the following short diagnoses of the species will suffice for the present:—

1. *Cy. brachysoma*, Dobson.

Head, broad, triangular; body very short; tail short and slender; fur bicoloured, slatey-blue with a greyish or silvery tinge; tips of the hairs sooty-brown.

Length : head and body 2".9 ; head 1".25 ; forearm 2".2 ; 2nd finger 4".0.

2. *M. spelæus*, Dobson.

Head long ; muzzle narrow, pointed ; tongue very long ; index finger *without* a claw ; a prominent, subcutaneous gland on each side of the anal opening ; fur short, dark-brown.

Length : head and body 4".2 ; tail 0".45 ; head 1".55 ; forearm 2".75 ; 2nd finger 4".6.

3. *Phyllorhina Nicobarensis*, Dobson.

Head long ; muzzle obtuse ; nose-leaf with three small points on its anterior margin, the transverse portion erect, forming an arc of a circle, rolled back on itself and overhanging the concave base which is divided into *two cells* by a single longitudinal fold. Wing membranes attached to base of metacarpal bone of outer toe.

Length : head and body 3".0 ; tail 1".7 ; forearm 2".5 ; tibia 1".0.

4. *Asellia Stoliczkana*, Dobson.

Ears acutely pointed, outer edge doubly emarginate immediately below the tip ; nose-leaf large, transverse portion erect, upper part of crest tri-acuminate, in form like an isosceles triangle with an obtuse vertical angle, having its apex divided into three points by two narrow incisions, perpendicular to the base. Fur pure white, with purplish-brown tips, beneath dirty-white.

Length : head and body, 1".6 ; tail 0".6 ; forearm 1".52 ; 2nd finger 2".6.

The discovery of the new species of *Macroglossus* leads to the necessity of an important change in the classification of the Pteropine bats, as proposed by Dr. Peters of Berlin.

Dr. Peters has devoted, perhaps, more attention to the examination of this interesting order than any other living naturalist, and his generalisations have, accordingly, been, I believe, very extensively accepted. In the Vol. of the monthly Proceedings of the Berlin Academy for the year 1867, page 865, he arranges the genera of the Pteropine bats (with the exception of *Pteropus*, of which he enumerates the species in a former paper in the same volume)—thus :—

A. *Index finger with a claw.*

2. *Cynonycterus*, D. $\frac{3.2}{3.3}$, $\frac{1}{1}$, $\frac{-}{4}$, $\frac{1}{1}$, $\frac{2.3}{3.3}$.
3. *Cynopterus*, D. $\frac{2.2}{2.3}$, $\frac{1}{1}$, $\frac{4}{4}$, $\frac{1}{1}$, $\frac{2.2}{3.2}$.
- 3a. *Ptenochirus*, D. $\frac{2.2}{2.3}$, $\frac{1}{1}$, $\frac{4}{2}$, $\frac{1}{1}$, $\frac{2.2}{3.2}$ cauda distincta.
4. *Megaerops*, D. $\frac{2.2}{2.3}$, $\frac{1}{1}$, $\frac{4}{2}$, $\frac{1}{1}$, $\frac{2.2}{3.2}$ cauda nulla.
5. *Harpyia*, D. $\frac{2.2}{2.3}$, $\frac{1}{1}$, $\frac{2}{0}$, $\frac{1}{1}$, $\frac{2.2}{3.2}$.
6. *Epomophorus*, D. $\frac{1.2}{2.3}$, $\frac{1}{1}$, $\frac{4}{4}$, $\frac{1}{1}$, $\frac{2.1}{3.2}$.
- 6a. *Hypsignathus*, D.
7. *Macroglossus*, D. $\frac{3.2}{3.3}$, $\frac{1}{1}$, $\frac{4}{4}$, $\frac{1}{1}$, $\frac{2.3}{3.3}$.

B. *Index finger without a claw.*

8. *Cephalotes*, D. $\frac{3.1}{3.3}$, $\frac{1}{1}$, $\frac{2}{2}$, $\frac{1}{1}$, $\frac{1.3}{3.3}$.
9. *Notopteris*, D. $\frac{2.2}{2.3}$, $\frac{1}{1}$, $\frac{1-1}{1-1}$, $\frac{1}{1}$, $\frac{2.2}{3.2}$.

It will be thus seen that the genus *Macroglossus*, according to Prof. Peters, comes under the head of the first division, or those bats provided with a claw on the index finger, and this generalisation was perfect so long as *M. minimus*, remained the type of the genus, but the above noticed new species, of which two spirit specimens are before you, has not the slightest trace of a claw on the index finger. That this is a true *Macroglossus* is sufficiently evident, if the form of the head, and the number, character, and arrangement of the teeth be compared with the same parts in *M. minimus*, the points of difference consisting in the possession or absence of a claw on the index finger, the place of attachment of the wing membrane to the foot, and the comparative length of the tail. These differences would, perhaps, warrant the formation of a new sub-genus for the reception of this species, which, however, I hesitate to do till the discovery of other species requires it.

The differences referred to would, no doubt, be of great importance in separating the species and placing them in different genera, were there associated with them correspondingly important differences in the form of the head, and the character, number and

arrangement of the teeth. But when we come to examine and compare these parts in the specimens of the two species, we are at once struck by the almost complete similarity of the specimens in these respects, the relative importance of which it is unnecessary to dwell upon.

Therefore that part of Prof. Peters's classification which depends on the presence or absence of a claw on the index finger must be abandoned, and some other generalisation, based on a more constant and important character, substituted, but I have not yet examined a sufficient number of species to enable me to indicate this character.

Among the bats obtained by Dr. Stoliczka at the Nicobars three specimens of *Miniopterus Australis*, Tomes, occur. Mr. Tomes in describing this species* says "the name under which I have described this species was given under the impression that it was exclusively a native of Australia. It was not until after I had arranged and named the specimens in the British Museum and in some other collections, that I found it to be an inhabitant of Timor (and probably of other islands of the Indian Archipelago), as well as of Australia, and that the name of *Australis* was not strictly appropriate. But to avoid the confusion which might possibly arise from a change of name, I have thought it desirable that it should remain unaltered." I believe this is the first time *M. Australis* has been recorded from the Nicobars, and in so recording it, I not only add a species to the fauna, but also a fresh locality to the species placed nearly as far north of the equator as its first locality was south of it, so that Mr. Tomes's surmise has proved correct, though I believe in a far wider sense than he expected, and taking the name *Australis* literally, he might with almost equal justice have called the species *septentrionalis*.

IV.—NOTES ON THE ANATOMY OF CREMNOCONCHUS SYHADRENSIS, by Dr. F. STOLICZKA.

A peculiar amphibious shell, living on the moist precipitous rocks of the Western Ghats near Bombay, was described by Mr.

* Annals and Mag. Nat. Hist. 1858, Vol. II. p. 161.